GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4058
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
CLEARANCE TO URANIUM BASED PROJECTS
Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of uranium-based projects currently functioning in the country, location-wise;

(b) whether environmental clearance has been accorded for some pending projects;

(c) if so, whether the impact of such projects on human health and the adverse impact on the surrounding has been examined before giving clearance to such projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) Nuclear power reactors in the first stage of our nuclear power programme are based on uranium fuel in different forms. There are 15 nuclear power reactors in operation and 8 under construction at seven locations in the country. The details are:

Location	In operation No. of units (MWe)	Under Construction No. of units (MWe)
Tarapur, Maharashtra	3 (860)	1 (540)
Rawatbhata, Rajasthan	4 (740)	2 (440)
Kalpakkam Tamil Nadu	2 (440)	1 (500)
Narora, Uttar Pradesh	2 (440)	
Kakrapar, Gujarat	2 (440)	
Kaiga, Karnataka	2 (440)	2 (440)
Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu		2 (2000)

(b) The environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) for the stations in operation! projects under construction has been obtained. The clearance process in respect of new sites has been initiated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study to asses the impact of the project on the environment and population in the surrounding areas is conducted by an independent professional agency. This is followed by a Public hearing, clearance from the respective State Pollution Control Board etc. The clearance is accorded by the MoEF based on recommendation of an Expert Appraisal Committee, which carries out a detailed appraisal of environmental impact.